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Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 01677 260512Z

21
ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 SAJ-01 NIC-01 CU-04 NSCE-00 ARA-16

EUR-25 DRC-01 /141 W
---------- 089771
R 260505Z DEC 73
FM USLO PEKING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1183
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L PEKING 1677

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT CH
SUBJ: PRC POLITICAL BRIEFS

THE FOLLOWING SCRAPS ARE CURRENT HOLIDAY FARE AT DIPLOMATIC TABLES IN PEKING:

1. CONFUCIUS CAMPAIGN - DURING RECENT TRIP TO CHENGCHOW, AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR TOLD BY LEADING CADRE AT HONAN UNIVERSITY THAT CAMPAIGN TO CRITICIZE CONFUCIUS HAD NOT TOP LEVEL LEADERSHIP TARGET. CAMPAIGN RATHER AIMED AT STRONGLY-ROOTED CONSERVATIVE ATTITUDES OF POPULACE, ESPECIALLY THE PEASANTRY, IN WHOM SUCH ATTITUDES MOST DEEPLY INGRAINED. INTELLECTUALS ARE ALSO NATURAL TARGET, HONAN UNIVERSITY OFFICIAL CONTINUED, BUT ARE NOT BEING FORCED TO WRITE ARTICLES. WORD IS MAKING UNIVERSITY ROUNDS THAT PREPARATION OF ARTICLES INVOLVES NO POLITICAL RISK.

2. MAO'S EARLY INTEREST - MEXICAN SECOND SECRETARY REMEMBERS BEING PUZZLED BY CONVERSATION AT TACHAI PRODUCTION BRIGADE LAST SPRING IN WHICH PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA ASKED PREMIR CHOU WHAT MAO WAS DOING THOSE DAYS. CHOU'S ANSWER, CONFIDENTIAL

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"STUDYING CONFUCIUS."

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3. THE BIG PICTURE - DURING RECENT VISIT TO MAO'S BIRTHPLACE AT SHAOSHAN, YUGOSLAV POLITICAL COUNSELLOR DESCRIBED FOLLOWING SCENE, WHICH HE FELT SUMMARIZED APTLY THE ANOMALIES OF CURRENT DOMESTICAL POLITICAL SITUATION. A RED FLAG FLUTTERS MILITANTLY IN THE BREEZE, STUCK INTO THE GROUND IN FRONT OF THE HISTORIC SHRINE. BENEATH IT SIT A GROUP OF BLUE CLAD WORKERS WHO HAVE MADE THE LONG PILGRIMAGE FROM A FAR OFF PROVINCE. THERE IS NOT A RED BOOK IN SIGHT. THE ENTIRE GROUP IS PLAYING CARDS.
BRUCE

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Executive Order: GS
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
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